Proposals of Election Commission

4086. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of proposals of the Election Commission are still pending with Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of all-party meeting called by Government to discuss the pending proposals during the last three years;

(d) whether it is a fact that no such meeting has been held by Government; and

(e) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI RAMAKANT D. KHALAP): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House (See below).

(c) Five such meetings have been held during the period from May, 1994 to April, 1997.

(d) and (e) Do not arise.

Statement

Important proposals of the Election Commission which are pending as on 1st January, 1997

1. The Election Commission should have an independent secretariat and the expenditure on the Commission should be 'charged'.

2. No candidate should be allowed to contest from more than one constituency.

3. Automatic disqualification of a person found guilty of corrupt practice.

4. Enhancement of required minimum number of valid votes polled to save security deposit from 'one-sixth' to 'one-fourth' thereof.

5. Compulsory maintenance of accounts by political parties and audit thereof.

6. The existing provision in section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, relating to registration of political parties, should not be deleted and there should be a specific provision to de-register a party if it violates the undertaking given under the section. The power to de-register should vest in the High Court.

7. Mobilisation of employees of Public Sector Undertakings, autonomous bodies, statutory and non-statutory bodes aided by the Government etc., for election duties as also to provide that employees of such bodies including local bodies could also be deployed for election duties outside their State.

8. Restoration of pre-1974 position in respect of election expenses.

9. Increase in the ceiling on election expenses as laid in Rule 90 of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961.

10. The officer nominated or designated as Chief Electoral Officer should not be allowed to do any other work except with the approval of the Election Commission.

11. Statutory backing to provisions of Part VII of the Model Code of Conduct.

12. Empowering Election Commission to issue instructions and to make recommendations in connection with elections.

Kerala Scheduled Tribes (Restriction on Transfer of Land and Restriction of Allenated Lands) Amendment Bill, 1996

4087. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Kerala High Court has directed the